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Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN
GOVERNMENT
"Governing Smarter"

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OPPORTUNITY
"Growing and Sustaining
Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP
"Protecting Our
Environment"

QUALITY LIVING
"Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens"

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Community Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 30, 2014

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Harford County Participates in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

1,453 pounds of medicines turned in for disposal

(Bel Air, MD) - - On Saturday, September 27, 2014, Harford County participated in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day with great success. Over two hundred people participated in the event. The event collected 1,453 pounds of unused and expired medicines. Officials properly disposed of and destroyed the medicine. This is significant in addressing the number of drug overdoses relating to prescription and over the counter medicines. Nationally, an estimated 6.2 million Americans over the age of 12 years old reported misusing prescription drugs.

Harford County Executive David R. Craig is proud of the citizens who participated in the prescription drug take back events. "This event enables prescription drugs to be disposed of properly, without harm to the environment and prevents it from getting to someone who could abuse it," said County Executive Craig.

The Harford County Department of Community Services Office of Drug Control Policy staff, Sheriff Office Deputies, the Havre de Grace Police Department, and Maryland State Troopers worked together with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agents to coordinate the local event to address the devastation that local prescription drug abuse is having in Harford County. Gary Tuggle, assistant special agent in charge, DEA Baltimore Office, also participated and hopes that other jurisdictions mirror Harford County's effort in prescription drug take back initiatives. Joseph Ryan, manager for the Office of Drug Control Policy stated, "I hope the Prescription Drug Take Back events enhance the level of awareness concerning the dangers of drug abuse, especially among our youth." For those who were unable to participate in Saturday's event, permanent prescription drop boxes are now available at five locations in Harford County to allow proper disposal 24 hours a day and seven days a week, no questions asked.

Sheriff's Main Office – 45 S. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

Sheriff's Northern Precinct – 3724 Norrisville Road, Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Sheriff's Southern Precinct – 1305 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, MD 21040

State Police Bel Air Barrack – 1401 Belair Road, Bel Air, MD 21014

Havre de Grace Police Dept – 715 Pennington Avenue, Havre de Grace, MD 21078

For more information about prescription drug abuse contact the Harford County Office of Drug Control Policy at odcp@harfordcountymd.gov or 410-638-3333.

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"Preserving Harford's past. Promoting Harford's future."